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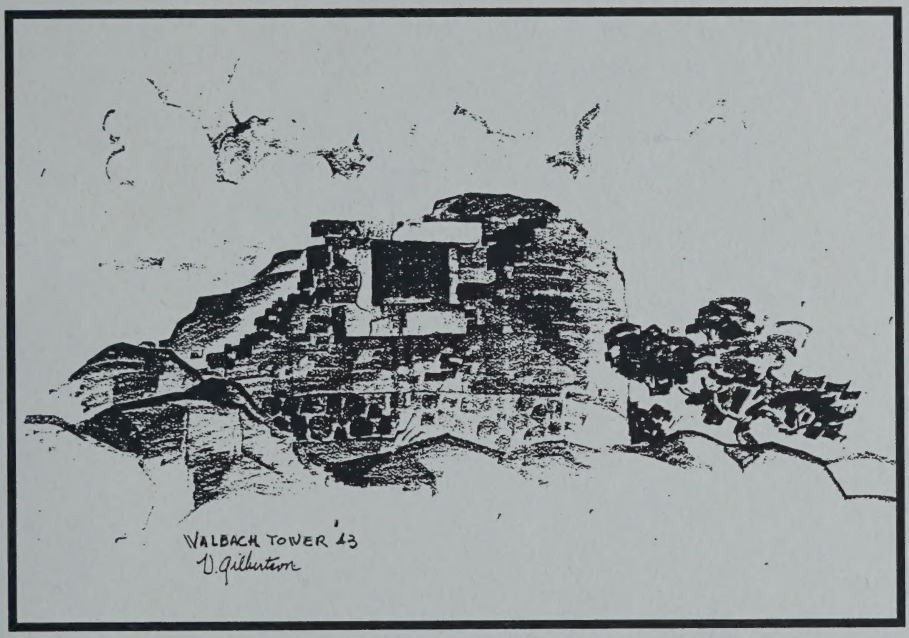

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, N.H.
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1996

HONORED CITIZEN AWARD

TO

FREDERICK S. WHITE

In recognition of his lifetime contribution to the

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

1997

If we were to stop our town's historical clock, and look for a present-day, living individual, who is representative of the community in its development over the years, we should seek out someone who embodies the spirit and life of the town. Such a one in our time is Fred White.

Fred's roots go back to the original settlers. A native son, he is at home on the river as well as on this land we used to call Great Island. In his youth he worked on our roads and bridges; later, he set a sterling example of how one can start from humble beginnings and rise to the top of his profession. His knowledge of the town, its people and history, have made him an invaluable resource among us. His services to New Castle over a lifetime are too numerous to mention. In recent years he has put his knowledge and dedication to work by researching records and documents for the purpose of solving puzzling and obscure matters affecting the ongoing administration of our town.

And so, in grateful appreciation, we dedicate this issue of the town's annual report to him.

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TOWN OFFICERS
1996-1997

Town Clerk	Henry F. Bedford	term exp 5/97
Deputy Town Clerk	John Cowan	indef appt
Deputy Town Clerk	Becky Wooley	indef appt
Selectmen	Clinton H. Springer	term exp 5/99
	Gene F. Doherty, Chr.	term exp 5/97
	Richard T. Cowern	term exp 5/98
Treasurer	William B. Marshall, III	term exp 5/97
Deputy Treasurer	Karen Arsenault	indef appt
Collector of Taxes	Pamela P. Cullen	term exp 5/97
Deputy Collector	Marcia L. Whitehouse	indef appt
Chief of Police	James C. Murphy	indef appt
Police Sergeant	Douglas Cummings, II	indef appt
Animal Control Officer	Douglas Cummings, II	indef appt
Special Police	Donald White, Jr.	appt exp 5/97
	Michael South	appt exp 5/97
	Keith Malinowski	appt exp 5/97
	Charles T. Law,Jr.	appt exp 5/97
Retired Chief	Richard A. Henderson	
Health Officer	Roger Epstein	appt exp 1/00
Fire Chief	Richard H. White	indef appt
Fire Wards	William G. Kingston	term exp 5/97
	Reginald Whitehouse	term exp 5/98
Public Works Superintendent	Dannie K. Barrett	indef appt
Public Works Board	Walter Liff, Chr.	appt exp 5/97
	Thomas Roy	appt exp 5/98
	Norman Kent	appt exp 5/99
	Bert Palmer	appt exp 5/99
	Frederick Pitts	appt exp 5/98
	Robert Wildes	appt exp 5/97
Alternate	Reginald Whitehouse	appt exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton Springer	term exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Treasurer	William B. Marshall, III	term exp 5/97
Trustees of Cemeteries	William Lanham	term exp 5/99
	Eugene W. Morrill	term exp 5/97
	David Merrill	term exp 5/98
Library Trustees	John Walsh	term exp 5/98
	Mary Beth Kelly, Chr.	term exp 5/97
	Pamela Stearns	term exp 5/99
Trustee of Trust Funds	Russell Cox	term exp 5/99
	Peter P. Gil	term exp 5/97
	Henry F. Bedford	term exp 5/98
Supervisors of Checklist	Marcia L. Whitehouse	term exp 5/02
	Joann Ireland	term exp 5/98
	Rowena F. Alessi	term exp 5/00

Planning Board	Robert Beecher,Chr	appt exp 5/99
	Diane McCormack	appt exp 5/99
	Etoile Holzaepfel	appt exp 5/97
	Barton Carr	appt exp 5/97
	Jay Tischler	appt exp 5/98
	David Merrill	appt exp 5/98
Alternate	David Reynolds	appt exp 5/98
Alternate	Christopher Russell	appt exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Gene F. Doherty	term exp 5/97
Board of Adjustment	Paul Cullen, Chr.	appt exp 5/98
	Russell Cox	appt exp 5/98
	Donald Moore	appt exp 5/97
	Raymond Ambrogi	appt exp 5/99
	Janet Harrigan	appt exp 5/98
	Robert Margeson	appt exp 5/99
Alternate	Peter Gil	appt exp 5/99
Conservation Commission	Wm. B. Marshall III, Chr.	appt exp 5/99
	Barbara Kingston	appt exp 5/97
	Carol Lincoln	appt exp 5/98
Mosquito Control Board	Darel Fletcher	indef appt
Emergency Mgt. Director	Richard H. White	appt exp 5/97
Deputy Emer. Mgt. Director	Richard Hopley	appt exp 5/97
Building Inspector	Charles Petlick	indef appt
Archives and Record Committee	Eugene Morrill, Chr.	indef appt
	Sr.Catherine Colliton	appt exp 5/99
	Fred White	appt exp 5/97
	Mary White	appt exp 5/98
	Christopher Russell	appt exp 5/98
Budget Committee	Robert Beecher	term exp 5/99
	Michael Armitage, Chr.	term exp 5/97
	Otto Grote	term exp 5/98
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton H. Springer	term exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/School Board	Roderick MacDonald	term exp 5/97
Recreation Committee	Guy Stearns, Chr.	appt exp 5/98
	Ingrid Getman	appt exp 5/99
	Scott Stringham	appt exp 5/99
	Elizabeth Fregeau	appt exp 5/97
	Stuart Murer	appt exp 5/97
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Richard T. Cowern	term exp 5/98
Historic District Committee	Bruce Smith, Chr.	appt exp 5/97
Ex-Officio/Planning Board	H. Jay Tischler	appt exp 5/98
	Barbara Becker	appt exp 5/99
	Karin Gil	appt exp 5/97
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton Springer	term exp 5/99
Alternate	Paul Hamblett	appt exp 5/99
Town Moderator	Wayne Semprini	term exp 5/98
Road Agent	Stephen Tabbutt	indef appt
Rep. to General Court #18	Jane Langley	
	John McCarthy	
Senate District #24	Burton Cohen	

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ELECTED POSITIONS AND SALARIES
FISCAL YEAR 1996

Position	Annual Salaries
Selectmen, Chairman	$1,700
Selectmen, (2)	1,600
Town Clerk	5,000
Treasurer	1,500
Collector of Taxes	1,700
Road Agent	150
Cemetery Trustee, (3)	100
Moderator	75 per election
Library Trustee	Unpaid
Supervisor of Checklist	100 & $50 per election
Trustee of Trust Funds, (2)	100
Trustee of Trust Funds, Bookkeeper	250
Budget Committee	Unpaid

There are many others who participate in Town Government on an unpaid basis and their service is most valuable to the success of our Town. These individuals deserve the whole hearted thanks of the community for their civic involvement.

SELECTMEN'S LETTER

New Castle is no longer a sleepy island village but a growing vibrant seacoast community - new friends and neighbors be they in the old village or the new Wentworth. A year from now, we hopefully will be awaiting the completion of a new Wentworth-By-The-Sea Hotel.

We purposely keep this letter brief as our town activities are adequately reported elsewhere in this Annual Report. We should add that the Town does miss seeing USCGC Reliance and hope that the Coast Guard pier is repaired so that the Reliance can return and the Town can proceed with our cemetery plans.

We hope the following explanation will eliminate any confusion the several truck and equipment warrants may create.

Last year you authorized the Selectmen to raise bonds and notes of $55,000 to supplement the $160,000 in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund to purchase a new $215,000 fire truck. To date the Town has made a $95,000 deposit with the remaining balance of $120,000 to be paid upon delivery of the new truck in mid July. $20,000 added to the existing $65,000 in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund plus the transfer from the Public Safety Dispatch Expendable Trust Fund will provide about $97,000. The sale of Engine 1 should provide the needed balance to purchase the new truck without any of the outside financing as authorized last year.

The popularity and use of both the Common - particularly the new playground, and Recreation Building continues to grow. We ask that you follow the rules so that all of us can continue to enjoy these facilities now and in the future.

May we again - and formally - thank you all for your efforts and contributions in making New Castle such a great place to live.

Board of Selectmen,

Gene F. Doherty, Chair
Clinton H. Springer
Richard T. Cowern

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD
AT GREAT ISLAND COMMON
MAY 14, 1996

Articles 1 through 15 were voted by ballot with the results indicated. The polls were opened by Moderator Wayne Semprini at 10AM and closed at 7PM.

ARTICLE 1: Balloting for town officers produced the following results:

Town Clerk (one year):	Henry F. Bedford	174 votes
Selectman (three years):	Clinton H. Springer	118 votes
Treasurer (one year):	Wm. B. Marshall III	168 votes
Tax Collector (one year):	Pamela P. Cullen	175 votes
Moderator (two years):	Wayne Semprini	174 votes
Trustee of Trust Funds (three yrs):	Russell N. Cox	173 votes
Library Trustee (three years):	Pamela F. Stearns	169 votes
Cemetery Trustee (three years):	William E. Lanham	175 votes
Budget Committee (three years):	Robert W. Beecher	158 votes
Fire Ward (three years):	Andrew Schulte	8 write-in votes
Supervisor Checklist (six years):	Marcia L. Whitehouse	177 votes

The ballot for the School District, conducted simultaneously with the election of town officers, resulted in the unopposed election of Mary Beth Lambert, who received 150 votes.

ARTICLE 2: Zoning Amendment #1 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 132 YES to 38 NO.

ARTICLE 3: Zoning Amendment #2 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 137 YES to 36 NO.

ARTICLE 4: Zoning Amendment #3 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 135 YES to 38 NO.

ARTICLE 5: Zoning Amendment #4 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 137 YES to 38 NO.

ARTICLE 6: Zoning Amendment #5 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 141 YES to 28 NO.

ARTICLE 7: Zoning Amendment #6 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 150 YES to 22 NO.

ARTICLE 8: Zoning Amendment #7 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 144 YES to 24 NO.

ARTICLE 9: Zoning Amendment #8 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 147 YES to 23 NO.

ARTICLE 10: Zoning Amendment #9 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 151 YES to 18 NO.

ARTICLE 11: Zoning Amendment #10 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 142 YES to 28 NO.

ARTICLE 12: Zoning Amendment #11 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 155 YES to 16 NO.

ARTICLE 13: Zoning Amendment #12 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 142 YES to 29 NO.

ARTICLE 14: Zoning Amendment #13 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 143 YES to 28 NO.

ARTICLE 15: Building Code Amendment #1 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 145 YES to 25 NO.

The business meeting was convened by Moderator Semprini at 2PM in the Recreation Building at Great Island Common. He asked that the meeting remember in a silent moment those members of the community who had died in the year previous. He asked approval of rules for the meeting, which included a prohibition on smoking, a requirement that discussion be limited to registered voters unless a specific exception were made, and a request that discussion be spirited but germane. With the exception of the budget, he said amendments would be limited to no more than three per article. He said that a motion to call the question was essentially a motion to close discussion and would require a two-thirds majority to carry.

ARTICLE 16: appropriating $215,000 for a new fire truck, to be financed by the withdrawal of $160,000 from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund and the issuance of not more than $55,000 in new bonds was moved and seconded. For the Fire Department, Andrew Schulte explained that Engine #1, though still serviceable, needed to be upgraded. The Department had in place a plan to purchase equipment on a thirty-year cycle, a scheme that would make costs to the town predictable, keep insurance premiums to homeowners reasonable, and provide the department with advanced and safe resources. He estimated that the effect on the tax rate beyond the 1997 budget would be about eight cents per thousand dollars of valuation. In response to a question, Schulte said that any income from the sale of Engine #1, which he guessed might be about $20,000, would be used to reduce the town's expenditure for the new engine, or would be returned to general funds of the town. Chief Richard White outlined the formula by which insurance officials determine premiums for fire coverage; the age of equipment is one factor in this calculation. After discussion, the motion, which required a two-thirds majority, was DEFEATED by a ballot vote of 81 YES to 44 NO.

ARTICLE 17: appropriating $20,000 to fund the position of police chief was ADOPTED by voice vote. Selectman Springer explained that the selectmen were reviewing operating procedures, staffing, and personnel of the police department. When that review was complete, he expected that a search would be instituted for a police chief.

ARTICLE 18: authorizing the establishment of an expendable general trust fund for the purpose of purchasing vehicles for police, park, and highway department use, and appropriating $15,000 for that purpose was ADOPTED by voice vote. The selectmen were authorized to make withdrawals from the fund at their discretion in order to avoid the need for special town meetings when a vehicle needed replacement.

ARTICLE 19: authorizing the selectmen to accept gifts, legacies, and devises on behalf of the town, was ADOPTED by voice vote.

ARTICLE 20: authorizing the selectmen, under prescribed conditions, to accept gifts to the town of personal property, was ADOPTED by voice vote. Adoption of the article does not obligate the expenditure of public funds in connection with such gifts.

ARTICLE 21: For the Budget Committee, Michael Armitage moved that the town raise and appropriate $1,076,784 to defray the town's expenses in the coming year. He offered to answer questions on any items in the detailed budget the committee presented. There were none, and the motion was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

No action was taken under ARTICLE 22.

ARTICLE 23: Barbara Newall asked that those who drive to the Post Office break the habit of leaving motors running while retrieving and reading mail in order to spare nearby residents and the general environment; Selectmen Springer agreed.

Springer also recognized David Merrill's gifts to the town of furniture for the town office and the upgraded telephone system there. The meeting thanked Merrill with applause.

Selectman Doherty read certificates of appreciation for Michael Geanoulis and Gino Marconi, which thanked them for their courage and skill in responding to a life-threatening car fire on February 25, 1996. Their actions may well have resulted in saving the life of the driver. The meeting approved the award of these certificates with prolonged applause.

Selectman Springer announced that the recycling center in Rye had responded to market forces by requiring that glossy inserts in newspapers once again be separated from newsprint. Although other recyclers may be less discriminating, ours has reverted to past practice of accepting only newsprint.

William Kingston moved that the meeting reconsider the vote taken on ARTICLE 16; Peter Gil seconded the motion. After consideration, the Moderator ruled that motion was in order, that, if successful, the budget would also have to be reconsidered, and that the ten-percent limitation did not apply because the budget as presented included the expenditure for the fire engine. The motion to reconsider carried 76-43.

Andrew Schulte summarized his previous presentation. Budget Committee member Grote recounted his conversion from skepticism to support following a presentation by Chief White to the Committee. White described the new equipment and reported that the cost of purchasing a comparable engine later would no doubt be greater. After further discussion, a motion to close debate carried by a show of hands that indicated a greater than two-thirds majority. By a ballot vote of 85 YES to 41 No, the motion carried and ARTICLE 16, on reconsideration, was ADOPTED.

Andrew Schulte moved reconsideration of the budget as a result of adoption of Article 16. The motion carried. Michael Armitage moved that the town raise and appropriate the sum of $1,291,784 to defray expenses in the coming year. The motion carried by voice vote.

Moderator Semprini suggested that residents so inclined should support the Maude H. Trefethen Scholarship Fund.

A motion to adjourn was ADOPTED by voice vote at 4:10PM.

A true and correct record of the Town Meeting and Election of Officers of the Town of New Castle, May 16, 1996, ATTEST:

Henry F. Bedford
Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OFFICIALS SURETY BONDS IN FORCE
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

TAX COLLECTOR	
Pamela P. Cullen	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $56,000
DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR	
Marcia Whitehouse	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $56,000
TREASURER	
William B. Marshall, III	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $59,000
DEPUTY TREASURER	
Karen Arsenault	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $59,000
TOWN CLERK	
Henry F. Bedford	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $17,000
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK	
John Cowan	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $17,000
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS	
Henry F. Bedford Peter Gil Russell Cox	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $88,000
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
John Walsh Mary Beth Kelly Susan MacDonald	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust $5,000

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHEDULE OF CITY/TOWN PROPERTY
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

1.	a. City/town hall, land & buildings	327,200
	b. Furniture & equipment	30,000
2.	a. Libraries, rec. hall, & bldgs.	883,700
	b. Furniture & equipment	225,000
3.	a. Police Dept.	-0-
	b. Equipment	17,500
4.	a. Fire Dept., land & bldgs.	225,400
	b. Equipment	340,000
5.	a. Highway Dept., land & bldgs.	-0-
	b. Equipment	45,000
	c. Material & supplies	6,000
6.	Parks, commons, & playground	1,890,100
7.	Water supply facilities owned by city/town	396,197
8.	Sewer plant & facilities owned by city/town	637,404
9.	Schools, lands & bldgs., equip.	760,100
10.	Airports, if owned by city/town	-0-
11.	All lands & buildings acquired through tax collector's deeds	-0-
12.	All other property & equipment	
	Riverside, Frost & Prescott Cemeteries	571,200
	Other Town owned lands & Town landings	399,600
	Town Garage, Old Library Building House on Common	374,800
TOTAL		7,129,201

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1996 ASSESSED VALUATION REPORT

	ACRES	ASSESSED VALUATION	TOTALS
1. Value of Land Only			
A. Current Use	0		
B. Conservation Restriction	0		
C. Residential	308.58	100,279,700	
D. Commercial/Industrial	4.83	1,393,000	
E. Total of Taxable Land	313.41	101,672,700	
F. Tax Exe/Non-Tax ($13,726,700)			
2. Value of Buildings Only			
A. Residential		74,864,600	
B. Manufactured Housing		0	
C. Commercial/Industrial		620,600	
D. Total Taxable Buildings		75,485,200	
E. Tax Exe/Non-Tax ($4,118,800)			
3. Public Water Utility-Privately Owned			
4. Public Utilities Gas			
5. Electric		486,100	
6. Oil Pipeline			
7. Mature Wood & Timber			
8. **VALUATIONS BEFORE EXEMPTIONS**		**177,644,000**	
9. Blind Exemption (1)			
10. Elderly Exemptions (1)			
11. Physically Handicapped Exemption			
12. Totally & Permanently Disabled Exemption			
13. Solar/Windpower Exemption			
14. School Din/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption			
15. Water/Air Pollution Control Exemption			
16. Wood Heating Energy System Exemption			
17. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS			
18. **NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE IS COMPUTED**		**177,644,000**	

LIST REVENUES RECEIVED FROM PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES:

19. State & Federal Forest Land, Recreation and/or Flood Control Land
20. Other
21. Other
22. Other

TAX CREDITS:

23.	Paraplegic, double amputees owning specially adapted homesteads with V.A. assistance		
24.	Totally & perm. disabled vets ($700/$1400)		700
25.	Other war service credits ($50/$100)	94	9,400
26.	Other credits (wood, solar, etc.)		
27.	**TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT**		**10,100**

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1996 TAX RATE COMPUTATION

			Tax Rates
---- Town Portion ----			
Appropriations		1,291,784	
Less: Revenues		723,125	
Less: Shared Revenues		3,763	
Add: Overlay		48,660	
Add: War Service Credits		10,100	
Net Town Appropriation		623,656	
Municipal Tax Rate			3.51
---- School Portion ----			
Due to Local School		719,957	
Due to Regional School		0	
Less: Shared Revenues		20,326	
Net School Appropriation		699,631	
School(s) Tax Rate			3.94
---- County Portion ----			
Due To County		234,476	
Less: Shared Revenues		3,379	
Net County Appropriation		231,097	
County Tax Rate			1.30
Combined Tax Rate			8.75
Total Property Taxes Assessed		1,554,384	

---- Commitment Analysis ----

Total Property Taxes Assessed	1,554,384
Less: War Service Credits	10,100
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0
Total Property Tax Commitment	1,544,284

---- Proof of Rate ----

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
177,644,000	8.75	1,554,384

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

		***** LEVIES OF *****	
	1995	1994	1993
UNCOLLECTED TAXES -BEG OF YEAR:			
Property Taxes	0	17,257.12	
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
TAXES COMMITTED -THIS YEAR:			
Property Taxes	1,439,574.00		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
OVERPAYMENT:			
Property Taxes	3,495.35		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
ABATEMENTS BY CHECK	3,228.00		
Interest Collected On Delinquent Tax	1,848.67	1,373.45	
Costs Collected on Delinquent Taxes			
Collected Resident Tax Penalties			
TOTAL DEBITS	1,448,146.02	18,630.57	0.00

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	***** LEVIES OF *****		
	1995	1994	1993
REMITTED TO TREASURER DURING FISCAL YEAR:			
Property Taxes	1,425,072.46	17,257.12	
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
Interest	1,848.67	1,294.45	
Penalties		79.00	
Overpayments	3,489.94		
DISCOUNTS ALLOWED:			
ABATEMENTS MADE:			
Property Taxes	5,098.00		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
Curr. Levy Deeded			
UNCOLLECTED TAXES -END OF YEAR:			
Property Taxes	12,636.95		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
TOTAL CREDITS	1,448,146.02	18,630.57	0.00

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

		***** LEVIES OF *****	
		1994	1993
DEBITS:			
Unredeemed Liens: Balance at Beg. of Fiscal Year		5,921.31	5,861.11
Liens Executed During Fiscal Yr	11,255.75		
Interest & Costs Coll. After Execution	326.97	395.11	2,266.08
TOTAL DEBITS	11,582.72	6,316.42	8,127.19
CREDITS:			
REMITTANCE TO TREASURER:			
Redemptions	4,445.34	1,405.62	5,861.11
Int./Costs (After Lien Execution)	326.97	395.11	2,266.08
ABATEMENTS OF UNREDEEMED TAXES			
LIENS DEEDED TO MUNICIPALITIES			
UNREDEEMED LIENS BAL. END OF YEAR	6,810.41	4,515.69	0
TOTAL CREDITS	11,582.72	6,316.42	8,127.19

Pamela Cullen
Tax Collector

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
RECEIPTS OF THE TOWN CLERK
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

MOTOR VEHICLE	133,041.00
DOG LICENSES	748.50
DOG PENALTIES	108.00
MARRIAGE LICENSES	532.00
VITAL RECORDS	280.00
ALL OTHER SOURCES	1440.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	136,149.50
PAYMENTS TO TOWN TREASURER	136,149.50

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TREASURER
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

The following is a balance of all accounts in the custody of the Treasurer as of June 30, 1995.

General Fund	
NOW Account	32,784.05
NH Public Deposit Investment Pool	571,702.59
Department of Public Works	
NOW Account	27,197.12
H Public Deposit Investment Pool	92,795.58

Respectfully submitted,

William B. Marshall, III
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Selectmen
Town of New Castle
New Castle, New Hampshire

I have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosure in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In accordance with the practices followed by other municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the financial statements referred to above do not include financial statements of the General Fixed Asset Account Group, which should be included to conform with generally accepted accounting principles.

In my opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire, at June 30, 1996, and the results of its operations and the changes in financial position of its proprietary and non-expendable trust funds for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principals.

My audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary schedules on pages 14 and 15 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairy presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

R.R. Bergeron
August 23, 1996

The Complete Text of The Report is available at the Town Hall.

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES:			
Taxes:			
Property Taxes	1,435,717	1,433,236	(2,481)
Boat Taxes	7,000	5,724	(1,276)
Int & Pen/Late Taxes	6,800	7,393	593
	1,449,517	1,446,353	(3,164)
Lic Permits & Fees:			
M.V. Permit Fees	90,000	132,382	42,382
Bldg Permits	4,000	4,710	710
Other Lic Permits & Fees	1,000	2,273	1,273
	95,000	139,365	44,365
Federal Government:			
Other Fed Grants	6,615	6,461	(154)
State of New Hampshire:			
Shared Revenue	42,974	42,974	0
Highway Block Grant	10,308	10,667	359
Water Pollution Sub	11,392	11,392	0
Other State Reimbursements	500	490	(10)
	65,174	65,523	349
Charges for services:			
Income from Dept	80,000	85,498	5,498
Miscellaneous sources:			
Emergency Management	8,000	3,600	(4,400)
Interest on Investments	14,000	17,424	3,424
Rental of Property	2,000	2,740	740
Fines & Forfeits	4,000	2,311	(1,689)
Insurance Dividends	5,000	23,429	18,429
Other Misc Sources	3,000	3,292	292
	36,000	52,796	16,796
Transfer in Trust Funds	10,000	0	(10,000)
TOTAL REVENUES	1,742,306	1,795,996	53,690

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
EXPENDITURES:			
General government:			
Executive	31,002	33,958	(2,956)
Elec, Reg, & Vital Stats	10,654	9,769	885
Financial Administration	45,257	48,015	(2,758)
Revaluation of Prop	6,000	9,463	(3,463)
Legal Expense	29,600	17,226	12,374
Planning & Zoning	5,618	6,738	(1,120)
Gen Gov Buildings	7,200	6,591	609
Cemeteries	7,515	7,532	(17)
Ins - Unallocated	1,000	1,285	(285)
Other Gen Gov	10,000	-0-	10,000
	153,846	140,577	13,269
Public Safety:			
Police	165,924	166,761	(837)
Ambulance	15,100	15,140	(40)
Fire	106,640	84,771	21,869
Emergency Medical Service	12,811	7,869	4,942
Building Inspection	35,292	37,252	(1,960)
Emergency Management	15,366	10,387	4,979
	351,133	322,180	28,953
Highways & Streets:			
Highways & Streets	37,802	53,730	(15,928)
Street Lighting	6,500	7,375	(875)
	44,302	61,105	(16,803)
Sanitation:			
Administration	402	703	(301)
Solid Waste Collection	28,000	26,000	2,000
Solid Waste Disposal	43,600	30,148	13,452
	72,002	56,851	15,151
Health:			
Pest Control	3,278	3,251	27
Health Agencies	10,000	10,000	0
	13,278	13,251	27

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
Welfare:			
Direct Assistance	5,000	0	5,000
	5,000	0	5,000
Culture and Recreation:			
Parks & Recreation	47,569	58,260	(10,691)
Library/Rec Building	11,111	10,440	671
Recreation Commission	600	1,452	(852)
Library	26,200	26,072	128
	85,480	96,224	(10,744)
Conservation:			
Other Conservation	600	150	450
	600	150	450
Debt Service:			
Principal-Long Term	97,200	87,200	10,000
Interest-Long Term	55,248	52,748	2,500
	152,448	139,948	12,500
Interest on TAN:			
Interest on TAN	6,375	1,135	5,240
	6,375	1,135	5,240
Capital Reserve:			
Transfer to Trust Funds	30,000	30,000	0
Payments to Other Gov:			
County Taxes	223,038	223,038	0
School District Taxes	642,046	642,046	0
	865,084	865,084	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,779,548	1,726,505	53,043
Excess of Revenue Over/(Under) Expenses	(37,242)	69,491	106,733

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	0	0	0
Excess of Rev, & Other Sources Over/(Under) Exp & Other Uses	(37,242)	69,491	106,733
Fund Balance 7/01/95	249,067	249,067	0
Fund Balance 6/30/96	211,825	318,558	106,733

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	6/30/95	6/30/96
ASSETS:		
Cash & Equivalents	200,459	604,786
Taxes Receivable	17,257	12,637
Tax Liens Receivable	11,783	11,326
Accounts Receivable	18,586	32,384
Due From Other Governments	20,291	0
Due From Other Funds	22,766	18,878
TOTAL ASSETS	291,142	680,011
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY:		
Tax Anticipation Notes		300,000
Warrants & Accounts Payable	41,260	61,453
Due To Other Funds	815	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	42,075	361,453
FUND EQUITY:		
Unreserved Fund Balance	249,067	318,558
TOTAL LIAB & FUND EQUITY	291,142	680,011

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENSES AND RETAINED EARNINGS
ENTERPRISE FUNDS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	WATER	SEWER	TOTAL
REVENUES:			
User Sales	45,249	73,245	118,494
Other	5,218	8,000	13,218
	50,467	81,245	131,712
EXPENSES:			
Water Purchases	25,591		25,591
Sewerage Assessment		45,806	45,806
Personnel services	4,108	8,439	12,547
Non-personnel services	3,416	22,287	25,703
Depreciation	7,350	0	7,350
Total Expenses	40,465	76,532	116,997
Net Income (Loss)	10,002	4,713	14,715
Retained earnings July 1, 1995	106,118	(23,174)	82,944
Elimination of Sewer accum depr acct		286,183	286,183
Retained earnings June 30, 1996	116,120	267,722	383,842

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ENTERPRISE FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	WATER	SEWER	TOTAL
ASSETS:			
Current Assets:			
Cash	15,486	11,710	27,196
Investments	92,795	0	92,795
Accounts Receivable	357	4,442	4,799
Total Current Assets	108,638	16,152	124,790
Property, Plant & Equip.:			
Equipment	10,260	5,137	15,397
Service Lines & Stations	551,230	1,449,484	2,000,714
Less Accumulated Deprec.	(75,554)	(2,054)	(77,608)
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	485,936	1,452,567	1,938,503
TOTAL ASSETS	594,574	1,468,719	2,063,293
LIABILITIES:			
Current Liabilities:			
Deposits & Accounts Pay	1,979	17,249	19,228
Due To General Fund	5,664	13,214	18,878
Total Liabilities	7,643	30,463	38,106
Equity:			
Contributed Capital*	470,811	1,170,534	1,641,345
Retained Earnings	116,120	267,722	383,842
Total Equity	586,931	1,438,256	2,025,187
TOTAL LIAB & EQUITY	594,574	1,468,719	2,063,293

* = Contributed by federal, state, and local governments, and by developers.

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997-1998 BUDGET PRESENTATION

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997 - 1998 BUDGET PRESENTATION

		WARR ART #	1996-1997 APPROPRIATION PRIOR YEAR	1995-1996 ACTUAL EXP PRIOR YEAR	1997-1998 SELECTMENS BUDGET	1997-1998 BUDGET COMM BUDGET
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
4130	EXECUTIVE		32,340	33,959	34,880	34,880
4140	ELEC., REG., & VITAL STATS		10,470	9,768	10,508	10,508
4150	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION		45,440	45,009	46,859	46,859
4152	REVALUATION OF PROPERTY		18,500	9,463	6,900	6,900
4153	LEGAL EXPENSE		20,000	17,226	13,800	13,800
4191	PLANNING & ZONING		4,518	6,739	6,091	6,091
4194	GENERAL GOVERNMENT BLDG		5,200	6,590	9,200	9,200
4195	CEMETERIES		8,900	7,532	10,500	10,500
4196	INSURANCES		1,000	1,285	1,300	1,300
4199	CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT		10,000	0	10,000	10,000
	PUBLIC SAFETY					
4210	POLICE & ANIMAL CONTROL		190,274	166,763	166,704	166,704
4215	AMBULANCE		15,100	15,140	15,100	15,100
4220	FIRE, EMS & HAZMAT		315,000	92,641	85,500	85,500
4240	BUILDING INSPECTION		34,941	37,252	37,218	37,218
4290	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		23,505	10,387	14,113	14,113
	HIGHWAYS & STREETS					
4312	HIGHWAYS & STREETS		49,247	53,728	97,539	97,539
4316	STREET LIGHTING		7,750	7,375	7,800	7,800
	SANITATION					
4321	ADMINISTRATION		502	703	1,258	1,258
4323	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION		30,000	26,000	30,000	30,000
4324	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL		41,600	30,148	40,160	40,160
	HEALTH					
4414	PEST CONTROL		3,308	3,251	3,308	3,308
4415	HEALTH AGENCIES & HOSPITALS		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	WELFARE					
4442	DIRECT ASSISTANCE		5,000	0	5,000	5,000
	CULTURE AND RECREATION					
4520	PARKS & RECREATION		70,436	70,154	72,596	72,596
4550	LIBRARY		28,150	26,072	29,990	29,990
	CONSERVATION					
4611	CONSERVATION COMM		600	150	600	600

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997 - 1998 BUDGET PRESENTATION

		WARR ART #	1996-1997 APPROPRIATION PRIOR YEAR	1995-1996 ACTUAL EXP PRIOR YEAR	1997-1998 SELECTMENS BUDGET	1997-1998 BUDGET COMM BUDGET
	DEBT SERVICE					
4711	PRINC. L-T BONDS		87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200
4721	INT. ON L-T BONDS		46,928	52,748	41,108	41,108
4723	INT. ON TAN		6,375	1,135	6,400	6,400
	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT					
4914	ENTERPRISE FUNDS:					
	WATER		47,000	76,532	49,300	49,300
	SEWER		77,500	40,465	77,300	77,300
4915	TRANSFER TO CAP RESERVE		45,000	30,000	50,000	50,000
	TOTAL TOWN BUDGET		1,291,784	975,415	1,078,232	1,078,232

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997 - 1998 BUDGET PRESENTATION

		WARR ART #	1996-1997 APPROPRIATION PRIOR YEAR	1995-1996 ACTUAL EXP PRIOR YEAR	1997-1998 SELECTMENS BUDGET	1997-1998 BUDGET COMM BUDGET
	TAXES					
3189	OTHER TAXES - BOAT		6,000	5,724	6,000	6,000
3190	INT & PEN ON DEL TAXES		6,000	6,210	6,000	6,000
	INVENTORY PENALTIES		1,200	1,183	1,200	1,200
	LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES					
3220	MOTOR VEHICLE PERMIT FEES		105,000	132,382	120,000	120,000
323001	BUILDING PERMITS		4,000	4,710	4,000	4,000
323002	OIL BURNER PERMITS		0	660	480	480
3290	OTHER LIC & PERMIT FEES		1,550	1,613	1,500	1,500
	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT					
3319	OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS-FEMA		6,600	6,461	6,000	6,000
	FROM STATE					
3351	SHARED REVENUE		42,974	42,974	15,506	15,506
3353	HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT		9,981	10,667	10,781	10,781
3354	WATER POLLUTION GRANTS		11,033	11,392	10,671	10,671
3359	OTHER - GAS TAX REFUND		450	490	497	497
	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT					
3379	INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES		0	0	0	0
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES					
	INCOME FROM DEPARTMENTS		81,800	85,499	83,300	83,300
	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES					
3502	INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS		15,000	17,424	15,000	15,000
350301	REC BLDG & BOAT STORAGE		2,500	2,740	2,615	2,615
3504	FINES		3,000	2,311	2,311	2,311
350601	INSURANCE DIV AND REIMB		7,500	23,429	10,000	10,000
350910	MISC SOURCES		26,505	6,892	18,965	18,965
	INTERFUND OPER TRANSFERS IN					
3914	ENTERPRISE FUNDS:					
	WATER		47,000	50,467	49,300	49,300
	SEWER		77,500	81,245	77,300	77,300
3915	TRANSFER IN FROM CAPITAL RES					
3934	PROC ON L-T NOTES & BONDS		55,000			
3TOTAL	TOTAL REVENUES		510,593	494,473	441,426	441,426
	SUBTOTAL 1 RECOMMENDED		1,078,232			
	SUBTOTAL 2 IND WARRANT ART		0			
	SUBTOTAL 3 SPEC WARRANT ART		0			
	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		1,078,232			
	LESS: AMT OF EST REV		441,426			
	AMOUNT OF TAXES TO BE RAISED		636,806			

1	TOTAL RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE		1,078,232
	LESS EXCLUSIONS:		
2	PRINCIPLE LONG TERM BONDS & NOTES	(87,200)	
3	INTEREST LONG TERM BONDS & NOTES	(41,108)	
4	CAPITAL OUTLAYS FUNDED FROM L-T BONDS & NOTE	0	
5	TOTAL EXCLUSIONS		(128,308)
6	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED LESS EXCLUSIONS		949,924
7	LINE 6 X 10%		94,992
	MAXIMUM BUDGET IS		1,173,224

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
TOWN WARRANT FOR 1997

ROCKINGHAM, SS NEW CASTLE

To the inhabitants of the Town of New Castle, in the County of Rockingham and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the New Castle Recreation Center, Great Island Common in said New Castle, on Tuesday, the thirteenth of May, 1997, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon Article I through VIII.

The second session of the Annual Town Meeting will commence at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to act upon the following subjects: Article IX through XIX.

ARTICLE I: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following year. The polls for the election of Town Officers and Ballot Articles will open at ten o'clock in the forenoon and shall not be closed before seven o'clock in the afternoon.

ARTICLE II: Zoning Amendment No.1 - Section 4.2.2.3 Maximum Lot Coverage:

Are you in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 4.2.2.3 Maximum Lot Coverage of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance?
Maximum Lot Coverage:
The maximum portion of a lot that may be covered by principal and accessory buildings shall be determined according to the schedule shown below, however, at least 1050 square feet (ground floor area) of building coverage will be permitted for lots between 3500 square feet and 9000 square feet in size, and at least 2250 square feet (ground floor area) will be permitted for lots over 9000 square feet in size

Lot size	Maximum % of Lot Coverage
-less than 3500 square feet:	30 percent
-3500 to 9000 square feet:	25 percent but not less than 1050 square feet
-more than 9000 square feet:	20 percent but not less than 2250 square feet

(Add the following statement)
The maximum lot coverage for clustered dwellings on undivided lots will be determined by the Planning Board.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE III: Zoning Amendment No. 2 - Section 4.2.2.5 Maximum Living Area:

Are you in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 4.2.2.5 Maximum Living Area of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance?

The maximum living area permitted in a dwelling unit shall be limited according to the following schedule:

For Building Lots up to and including 4000 square feet in area:	50 percent of total lot area
For Building Lots greater than 4000 square feet in area:	50 percent of the lot area for the first 4000 square feet and 25 percent of the lot area greater than 4000 square feet

(To add the following:)
The maximum living area for clustered dwellings on undivided lots shall be determined by the Planning Board.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE IV: Zoning Amendment No. 3 - Section 6.5 Regulations for Swimming Pools:

Are you in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 4.2.2.5 Maximum Living Area of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance?

Add a sentence immediately after the above heading as follows:

The following regulations also apply to exterior hot tubs and spas.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE V: Zoning Amendment No.4 - Section 6.7 Signs:

Are you in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 6.7 Signs of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance?

No display sign or advertising shall be permitted except for a single stationary announcement sign that: (1) is not larger than four (4) square feet in area, (2) has no more than two sides, (3) does not utilize direct or indirect lighting and, (4) is compatible in design with the surrounding residential neighborhood.

Add the following:

Temporary signs complying with the above are permitted as follows:

1. Construction signs for work requiring a building permit may be erected on the premises to identify the owner, architect, builder, or others associated with the work. Such signs shall be removed upon completion of the work and/or prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

2. Contractor signs for work not requiring a building permit may be displayed only while work is in progress.

3. Real estate signs directly related to the sale, rental, or lease of the building or lot upon which the sign is erected are permitted. Such signs shall be removed within 7 days of the sale, rental, or lease.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE VI: Zoning Amendment No. 5 - Section 6.8 Fences and Walls:

Are in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 6.8 Signs of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance ?
Add a new section to cover fences and walls as follows:

6.8.1 Fences and walls no more than six feet in height are permitted.
Retaining walls over 18 inches in height require a building permit from the Town Building Official.

Fences and free standing walls over six feet in height are permitted only by Special Exception granted by the New Castle Board of Adjustment. In granting such Special Exception the Board of Adjustment must find that the conditions set forth in Section 4.3 and in the following Section 6.8.2 have been met.

6.8.2 Requirements for Fences and Walls

1. Fences and walls must not be detrimental to the character of the surrounding neighborhood.

2. Fences and walls may not obstruct sight distances at driveway intersections or otherwise create unsafe conditions.

3. Fences and free standing walls greater than six feet in height shall not be permitted even by Special Exception if an abutter objects to the increased height.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE VII: Zoning Amendment No. 6 - Section 9.3.1.2 Historic District:

Are you in favor of adopting zoning amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board, which would amend or add definitions to Section 9.3.1.2 Historic District of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance ?

> Enlarge the Historic District by adding Oliver Street , Cape, River, and Riverview Roads and part of Cranfield Street and Portsmouth Avenue as follows:
> Beginning at the point where Portsmouth Avenue enters Great Island from the west at the town cemetery, and extending easterly to the intersection with Oliver Street, one lot deep along the southerly side of that avenue and to the Piscataqua River on the northerly side of that avenue. Thence extending northeasterly along Oliver Street including both sides of the street to the intersection with Cape and River Roads. Thence extending southeasterly along River Road to its intersection with Cranfield Street one lot deep along the southwesterly side. Thence extending in two directions: first, southwesterly along Cranfield Street to the intersection with Neals Lane, one lot deep on the southeasterly side of the street and to the Piscataqua River on the northwesterly side; second, northeasterly along Cranfield Street to the intersection with Main Street and thence easterly along both sides of Main Street to the intersection with Wentworth Road, one lot deep on the southeasterly side of Cranfield Street and southerly side of Main Street and to the Piscataqua River on the northwesterly side of Cranfield Street and northerly side of Main Street.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE VIII: Zoning Amendment No.7 - Section 9.5. Wireless Communications Overlay District

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of New Castle which amends the Town of New Castle Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 9.0 of the zoning ordinance, Overlay Zoning Districts, by adding a new section 9.5 to read as follows:

9.5 Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District

9.5.1 Purpose and Intent

The purpose of the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District is to effectuate the following legislative goals:

a. Preserve the authority of the Town of New Castle to regulate and to provide for reasonable opportunity for the siting of wireless telecommunications facilities.

b. Reduce adverse impacts the siting of such facilities may create, including but not limited to: Impacts on aesthetics, environmentally sensitive areas, historically significant areas, flight corridors, health and safety and prosperity.

c. Provide for and promote co-location on wireless telecommunications facilities.

d. Provide for removal of abandoned facilities.

9.5.2 Establishment of Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District

The Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District shall consist of all town owned land within the Town of New Castle except for any town owned land which is within the New Castle Historic District.

9.5.3 Definitions

1) "Alternative tower structure"
Innovative siting techniques that shall mean man-made trees, clock towers, bell steeples, light poles, and similar alternative-design mounting structures that camouflage or conceal the presence of antennas or towers.

2) "Antenna"
Shall mean any exterior apparatus designed for telephonic, radio, television, personal communications service (PCS), pager network, or any other communications through the sending and/or receiving of electromagnetic waves of any bandwidth.

3) "FAA"
An acronym that shall mean the Federal Aviation Administration.

4) "FCC"
An acronym that shall mean the Federal Communications Commission.

5) "Height"
Shall mean, when referring to a tower or other structure, the distance measured from ground level to the highest point on the tower or other structure, even if said highest point is an antenna.

6) "Planning Board or Board"
Shall mean the Town of New Castle Planning Board and regulator of this ordinance.

7) "Preexisting towers and antennas"
Shall mean any tower or antenna lawfully constructed or permitted prior to the adoption of this ordinance. Shall also mean any tower or antenna lawfully constructed in accordance with this ordinance that predates an application currently before the Board.

8) "Telecommunications Facilities"
Shall mean any structure, antenna, tower, or other device which provides commercial mobile wireless services, unlicensed cellular phone services, specialized mobile radio communications (SMR), and personal communications service (PCS), and common carrier wireless exchange access services.

9) "Tower"
Shall mean any structure that is designed and constructed primarily for the purpose of supporting one or more antennas, including self-supporting lattice towers, guy towers, or monopole towers. The term includes radio and television transmission towers, microwave towers, common-carrier towers, cellular telephone towers, alternative tower structures, and the like.

9.5.4 Conditional Uses
1. Conditional Use Permit:
All applications under this ordinance shall apply to the Planning Board for site plan review in accordance with the requirements of the Town site plan review regulations. The Planning Board shall act upon an application for siting by applying its site review regulations as well as the provisions of this ordinance and shall process application in accordance with the procedural requirements of its site plan review regulations and RSA 676:4. All decisions rendered by the Planning Board shall be in writing and any denial of an application to site a facility shall be in writing and shall be based upon substantial evidence contained in the written record. The Planning Board may impose conditions in granting a conditional use permit pursuant to this subsection to the extent the Board concludes such conditions are necessary to minimize any adverse affect of the proposed facility on adjoining properties and to effectuate the intent of this ordinance. The siting of a wireless telecommunications facility is permitted in the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District by conditional use permit which may be granted by the Planning Board based on the following criteria and pursuant to the following procedure.

2. Application requirements:
a. Each applicant requesting a conditional use permit under this ordinance shall submit a scaled plan in accordance with the site plan review regulations of the Town of New Castle. The plan shall include at a minimum the following:

1) A scaled elevation view depicting the proposed site and the property of all abutters and depicting structures located within a radius of one half mile from the proposed site;

2) A topographic depiction of the site;

3) Depiction of all setbacks from existing structures, streets, rights-of-way, common areas, and other structures, including existing towers;

4) Depicting proposed ingress and egress to the site;

5) Depicting surrounding tree coverage and foliage; and

6) Depicting visual impacts on view sheds, ridge lines, and other impacts by means of tower location, tree and foliage clearing and placement of incidental structures.

b. Other information required:

1) Radio frequency coverage;

2) Written proof that the proposed facility complies with FCC regulations on radio frequency exposure guidelines;

3) Written proof that an evaluation has taken place and reporting the results of that evaluation, certifying that the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) have been met and certifying that any environmental assessment process required by FCC rules has been met;

4) A written inventory of existing sites which are within the jurisdiction of the Town and which are within two miles of the geographic borders of the Town, including specific information about the tower, as well as economic and technological feasibility for co-location on those towers.

5) Written information demonstrating that no existing structure described in the inventory can accommodate the antenna the applicant proposes to locate.

3. Conditions

a. The Planning Board shall grant a conditional use permit authorizing the siting of a wireless telecommunications facility within the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District upon finding that the applicant has met each of the following conditions:

1) The proposed wireless telecommunications facility will not unreasonably interfere with the view of any park, natural scenic vista, historic building, or view corridor;

2) That the height of the proposed facility does not exceed 190 feet or that which is necessary for its intended use, whichever is less.

3) That there are no existing towers or structures located within the Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District or described in the written inventory which meet the applicant's engineering requirements and which can be used for substantially the purposes the applicant intends to use the facility it proposes to site.

4) That the proposed facility will be built to allow for maximum allowance of co-location upon the new facility. The Planning Board shall make a finding, based upon information submitted by the applicant, that the applicant will reasonably enable subsequent co-location on the facility to be sited by agreeing to make such co-location available for reasonable fees and costs to other telecommunications providers.

5) That the applicant has complied with all applicable site review regulations with the Town of New Castle.

b. The Planning Board shall make written findings on each of these conditions.

9.5.5 Construction Performance Requirements

A. Aesthetic and Lighting.
The guidelines in this subsection (A), shall govern the location of all towers, and the installation of all antennas. However, the Planning Board may waive these requirements, only if it determines that the goals of this ordinance are served thereby.

1. Towers shall either maintain a galvanized steel finish, subject to any applicable standards of the FAA, or be painted a neutral color, so as to reduce visual obtrusiveness.

2. At a tower site, the design of the buildings and related structures shall, to the maximum extent possible, use materials, colors, textures, screening, and landscaping that will blend the tower facilities with the natural setting and built environment. These buildings and facilities shall also be subject to all other Site Plan Review Regulation requirements.

3. If an antenna is installed on a structure other than a tower, the antenna and supporting electrical and mechanical equipment must be of neutral color that is identical to, or closely compatible with, the color of the supporting structure so as to make the antenna and related equipment as visually unobtrusive as possible.

4. Towers shall not be artificially lighted, unless required by the FAA or other applicable authority. If lighting is required, the governing authority may review the available lighting alternatives and approve the design that would cause the least disturbance to the surrounding views.

5. Towers shall not contain any permanent or temporary signs, writing, symbols, or any graphic representation of any kind.

B. Federal Requirements.

All towers must meet or exceed current standards and regulations of the FAA, FCC, and any other agency of the federal government with the authority to regulate towers and antennas. If such standards and regulations are changed, then the owners of the towers and antennas governed by this ordinance shall bring such towers and antennas into compliance with such revised standards and regulations within six (6) months of the effective date of such standards and regulations, unless a more stringent compliance schedule is mandated by the controlling federal agency. Failure to bring towers and antennas into compliance with such revised standards and regulations shall constitute grounds for the removal, of the tower or antenna, as abandoned, at the owner's expense through the execution of the posted security.

C. Building Codes-Safety Standards.

To ensure the structural integrity of towers and antennas, the owner of a tower shall ensure that it is maintained in compliance with standards contained in applicable local building codes and the applicable standards for towers that are published by the Electronic Industries Association, as amended from time to time. If, upon inspection, the Town concludes that a tower fails to comply with such codes and standards and constitutes a danger to persons or property, then upon notice being provided to the owner of the tower, the owner shall have 30 days to bring such tower into compliance with such standards. If the owner fails to bring such tower into compliance within 30 days, such action shall constitute an abandonment and grounds for the removal of the tower or antenna, as abandoned, at the owners expense through execution of the posted security.

D. Additional Requirements for Telecommunications Facilities

These requirements shall supersede any and all other applicable standards found elsewhere in Town Ordinances or Regulations that are less strict.

1. Setbacks and Separation.

a. Towers must be set back a distance equal to 125% of the height of the tower from any off-site residential structure.

b. Tower, guys, and accessory facilities must satisfy the minimum zoning district setback requirements.

c. Towers over 90 feet in height shall not be located within one-quarter mile of any existing tower that is over 90 feet in height.

2. Security Fencing. Towers shall be enclosed by security fencing not less than six feet in height and shall also be equipped with an appropriate anti-climbing device.

3. Landscaping.
a. Towers shall be landscaped with a buffer of plant materials that effectively screens the view of the tower compound from adjacent residential property. The standard buffer shall consist of a landscaped strip at least 10 feet wide outside the perimeter of the compound. Natural vegetation is preferred.

b. In locations where the visual impact of the tower would be minimal, the landscaping requirement may be reduced or waived entirely.

c. Existing mature tree growth and natural land forms on the site shall be preserved to the maximum extent possible. In some cases, such as towers sited on large wooded lots, natural growth around the property may be deemed a sufficient buffer.

9.5.6 Bonding and Security and Insurance

Recognizing the extremely hazardous situation presented by abandoned and unmonitored towers, the Planning Board shall set the form and amount of security that represents the cost for removal and disposal of abandoned towers in the event that the tower is abandoned and the tower owner is incapable and unwilling to remove the tower. Bonding and surety shall be consistent with the provision in the Subdivision Regulations. Furthermore, the Planning Board shall require the submission of proof of adequate insurance covering accident or damage.

9.5.7 Removal of Abandoned Antennas and Towers

Any antenna or tower that is not operated for a continuous period of 12 months shall be considered abandoned and hazardous to the public health and safety, unless the owner of said tower provides proof of quarterly inspections. The owner shall remove the abandoned structure within 90 days of receipts of a declaration of abandonment from the Town notifying the owner of such abandonment. A declaration of abandonment shall only be issued following a public hearing, noticed per Town regulations, with notice to abutters and the last known owner/operator of the tower. If the abandoned tower is not removed within 90 days, the Town may execute the security and have the tower removed. If there are two or more users of a single tower, this provision shall not become effective until all users cease using the tower.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE IX: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following: Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in accordance with RSA 72:39-b, (c), in the Town of New Castle, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 of age up to 75 years, $50,000; for a person 75 years of age or older, $75,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five (5) years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) years. In addition, the owner or owners must have a net income not greater than $25,000; and own net assets not in excess of $60,000, excluding the value of the person's residence.

ARTICLE X: To see if the Town will vote to change the name and purpose of the Town Vehicle Trust Fund to the Town Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund for the purpose of purchasing, as required, vehicles and equipment for road, park, police and fire purposes. This Article is to permit the expansion of the purpose of the existing fund in order to authorize the purchase of vehicles and equipment as may be required by the Town, and to authorize the withdrawal from this fund at the discretion of the selectmen. The existing Town Vehicle Trust Fund was established by Article XVIII at the 1996 Town Meeting in accordance with RSA 31:19a.

ARTICLE XI: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Public Safety Dispatch Expendable Trust Fund created by Article XVI at the 1993 Town Meeting. The Town dispatching is now being handled by Rockingham County and there is no longer any need for this Fund. The funds which have accumulated with interest, are expected to be Eleven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents ($11,682.27) as of June 30, 1997, and are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund where they will become surplus and may be used for the acquisition of a new fire truck.

ARTICLE XII: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell existing Fire Department Engine #1, a 1972 Ford, and place the proceeds in the Town General Fund. It is estimated that the proceeds from the sale will be in the range of Twenty to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($20,000-$25,000). These funds may be used to offset the cost of the new fire truck.

ARTICLE XIII: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the existing Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. The Town Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund will be used to purchase future fire trucks. The remaining funds, which are expected to be Six Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety One Dollars and Forty Three Cents, ($6,791.43) as of June 30, 1997, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund where they will become surplus and may be used for the acquisition of the 1997 Pierce Fire Truck.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

ARTICLE XIV: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-d authorizing the library trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose, provided, however, that no acceptance of personal property by the library trustee shall be deemed to bind the town or the library trustees to raise, appropriate, or expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of such property. And further to require that prior to the acceptance of any such gift, valued at over Five Thousand ($5,000.00), the public library trustees shall hold a public hearing on the proposed acceptance.

ARTICLE XV: To see if the Town will vote to authorized the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, and hold in Trust, gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Town for any public purpose, as permitted by RSA 31:19. This authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of Town Meeting.

ARTICLE XVI: To see if the Town will vote to authorized the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of personal property, other than cash, to the municipality for any public purposes. This authorization, in accordance with RSA 31:19-e shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the Town Meeting. Prior to the acceptance of any such gift, the Selectmen shall hold a public hearing on the proposed acceptance and no acceptance of any personal property pursuant to RSA 31:95-e shall be deemed to bind the Town to raise, appropriate, or expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of such personal property.

ARTICLE XVII: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray Town charges for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE XVIII: To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards, and others heretofore chosen and to pass any vote in relation thereto.

ARTICLE XIX: To transact such business as may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hand and seals this 25th day of April, in the year of our lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Seven.

A true copy of warrant - attest

Gene F. Doherty, Chairman

Clinton H. Springer

Richard T. Cowern
Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT - ALL FUNDS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

	Original Issue	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
BOND PRINCIPAL:			
Sewer System	645,000	5.00%	1/15/2006
Recreation/ Library Building	750,000	7.62%	1/15/2004
Main Street Water Line	150,000	6.40%	1/15/2002

	Balance 7/1/95	Issued FY 96	Paid FY 96	Balance 6/30/96	Due FY 97	Due Subsequently
Sewer System	244,200	0	22,200	222,000	22,200	199,800
Recreation/ Library Building	450,000	0	50,000	400,000	50,000	350,000
Main Street Water Line	105,000	0	15,000	90,000	15,000	75,000
TOTAL	799,200	0	87,200	712,000	87,200	624,800

BOND INTEREST:						
Sewer System			12,210		11,100	49,950
Recreation/ Library Building			33,900		30,150	105,900
Main Street Water Line			6,638		5,678	14,092
TOTAL			52,748		46,928	169,942

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

PRINCIPAL:	BALANCE 6/30/95	RECEIPTS	DISBURSED	BALANCE 6/30/96
Library	9,376	10,000	0	19,376
Marchand Fund	4,782	0	0	4,782
Amazeen Trust	2,504	0	0	2,504
Bicentennial Park Care	836	0	0	836
Sanitary Landfill	20,000	0	0	20,000
Fire Department - Truck	85,000	20,000	0	105,000
Fire Department - Equip	0	10,000	0	10,000
Dispatch	10,000	0	0	10,000
New Castle School	22,400	0	22,400	0
Sewer Depreciation Fund	0	275,000	0	275,000
Recreation Committee	17,943	15,315	31,440	1,818
Cemetery Maintenance	48,524	1,400	0	49,924
TOTAL PRINCIPAL	221,365	331,715	53,840	499,240
INCOME:				
Library	0	620	620	0
Marchand Fund	298	319	450	167
Amazeen Trust	1,622	259	0	1,881
Bicentennial Park Care	1,433	142	0	1,575
Sanitary Landfill	15,470	2,225	0	17,695
Fire Department - Truck	30,198	7,682	0	37,880
Fire Department - Equip	0	229	0	229
Dispatch	292	645	0	937
New Castle School	2,714	0	2,714	0
Sewer Depreciation Fund	0	5,373	0	5,373
Recreation Committee	608	1,893	0	1,892
Cemetery Maintenance	19,498	4,317	4,317	19,498
TOTAL ACCUMULATED INCOME	72,133	23,095	8,101	87,127
TOTAL FUNDS	293,498	354,810	61,941	586,367

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996

CASH ON HAND 7/1/95:		
NOW Account	1,186.11	
Savings Account	4,742.21*	
Petty Cash	100.00	
Computer Fund	211.21	

TOTAL CASH ON HAND		6,239.53
RECEIPTS:		
Town Appropriations	25,700.00	
Donations-Specified	9,990.00*	
Non-Spec.	241.60	
Interest-Trust Fund	857.11	
Now	145.97	
Savings	189.24	
Computer	10.80	
Non-Resident Fees	90.00	
Fines, Photocopies, etc.	170.45	

TOTAL RECEIPTS		37,395.17

TOTAL CASH AND RECEIPTS		43,634.70
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Printed Material		
Books	7,410.62	
Reference	287.98	
Periodicals	342.51	
Non-Printed Materials		
Audio	743.70	
Video	264.14	
Programs and Arts	36.46	
Salaries		
Director Salary	14,322.00	
Support Staff	475.00	
Tax Expense	1,161.53	
Insurance Expense	90.48	
Operating Expense		
Building Maintenance	930.00	
Equipment Maintenance	401.00	
Equipment Replacement	1,361.00	
Computer Expense	100.00	
Telephone	856.42	
Postage & Supply	911.04	
Professional Expense	90.00	
Bank Fees	25.25	

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		29,809.13

BALANCE		13,825.57
		=========
CASH ON HAND 6/30/96:		
NOW Account	2,794.12	
Savings Account	931.45	
Funds in Trust	10,000.00*	
Petty Cash	100.00	

TOTAL		13,825.57
		=========

* Please refer to the Library Trustee Report.

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Town Meeting held in May, 1996, an accounting of the Clerk's receipts for the fiscal year 1995-1996, and the annual compilation of vital statistics are printed elsewhere in this volume.

Much of the business of the Clerk's office is now conducted by mail. In particular, about half of the routine motor vehicle transactions are handled this way, thereby avoiding inconvenience to owners and enhancing the efficient operation of my office. In many cases, when a veterinarian has furnished a record of a rabies vaccination, we have been able to register dogs by mail as well.

These procedures are the result of the imagination of my predecessor and the cooperation of the state's motor vehicle hierarchy, local veterinarians, the animal control officer, and the faithful folks in the New Castle Post Office. I am grateful to all of them.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry F. Bedford, Town Clerk

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Besides routine recreational issues, the Recreation Committee was responsible for conducting three events in 1996: The Easter Egg Hunt ($241) in the spring and the Halloween Trick or Treat ($100) in the fall were well attended by the children and parents of New Castle.

Much of our effort in 1996 went into conducting the Third Annual Great Island Road Race. A record 860 people from throughout the Seacoast and beyond registered for the race, with 66 hearty New Castle residents who ran or walked the 5K course. Once again we are thankful for those residents throughout town who were an integral part of the race, through baking food, making a personal donation, and/or volunteering their time and resources.

The $16,000 that was raised by the 1996 race brought our three year total to $43,000. This money along with a number of island volunteers enable us to install the first two phases of the new playground at the Great Island Common. The total price tag for the new playground is $60,000 and is being paid for entirely with the funds raised through the Great Island Road Race. We hope to raise $17,000 at this year's race, and install the third and final stage of the playground in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Stearns, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The welcome that I have received upon becoming your new police chief has been warm and honest. I have been made to feel right at home.

I wish to congratulate Chief Richard "Rick" Henderson upon his retirement. Chief Henderson served the citizens of New Castle with honor and pride for many years and deserves a heartfelt "Thank You".

The year 1997 is going to be a year of intervention and change at the police department.

Community policing and the creative use of technology will be just some of the areas that we will be focusing on. Also closer working relationships with other town agencies, closer ties with the youth of the community, and training in the area of emergency medical response are other areas being explored.

We wish to give the citizens/taxpayers the greatest value for the tax dollar spent and wish to provide the best police service available to the people of New Castle.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Murphy
Chief of Police

SYNOPSIS OF POLICE ACTIVITY OF 1996:

Suspicious Activity/Criminal Complaints:	340
Total Arrests:	45
Medical Emergency(s)/Assists:	30
Alarms:	56
Domestic Complaints:	8
Mutual Aid Calls:	67
Assist Other Town Agencies:	159
Building/Residences Checks:	1,476
Unsecured Buildings/Residences:	87
Assists Citizens:	93
Fire Assists:	16
Motor Vehicle Activity:	
Warnings - speeding:	658
Warnings - other:	21
Motor Vehicle Summons:	125
Radar Patrols:	981
Parking Complaints:	170

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

1996 brought us a new seasonal resident, one who became the most recognized and influential member of the community during the past year, Bullwinkle the Moose. During his stay here the majority of the people enjoyed seeing him around, while several others were displeased with him. Whatever your point of view, he was a marvelously interesting creature. Though it is uncertain whether or not he'll return this year, please drive carefully in case he makes his 2nd annual debut.

I have listed a few of the New Castle Dog Ordinances below for the benefit of new residents and as refresher for the longtime residents:

1. Keep your dog restrained to your property or on a leash when out for a walk.
2. Ensure to use a pooper scooper as needed.
3. Dogs must be on a leash at all times when on the beach or in the Great Island Common.
4. NO dogs are allowed on the beach between May 15th and Sept. 15th. Dogs are not allowed at the State Parks at any time.

All pet owners should ensure that their dog, cat, ferret, and/or other pets have had their rabies shots up to date as required by law. This requirement is in the interest of society as a whole to prevent the spread of rabies and the injuries or deaths it could cause and to all pet owners who may be held liable for all costs associated with any bites or non bite exposures to others should their pets not be vaccinated.

Q. What is considered a bite or non bite exposure?
A. A bite can be caused intentionally or unintentionally by any domestic or wild animal to a domestic animal or human, whether vaccinated or not. A non bite exposure is an exposure to any domestic animal or human by any domestic or wild animal that is not current on it's vaccinations, through a scratch, feces, the transfer of saliva (even if just from the fur).

Q. What costs may be associated with a potential exposure?
A. If your pet is involved in a bite or non bite exposure, and is not current on it's vaccination, he/she may have to be put to sleep and it's brain prepared for testing, which is the only way to determine if it has rabies (the cost is usually $300-$500 and at your expense). In addition, this can be traumatic on any owner, especially those with children.

If your pet is determined to have rabies or a diagnosis is not possible, the person affected by the exposure may have to (determined by their doctor) receive rabies booster and shots (the cost is usually $1300-$1500 per shot and at your expense).

As you can see it is worth the time and expense to ensure that your pets are current on all vaccinations.

ANIMAL CONTROL STATISTICS:

1995 - Complaints.....86
Enforcement Actions.....69

1996 - Complaints.....80
Enforcement Actions.....39

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Should you have a complaint or problem that needs immediate attention please contact the duty police officer by calling dispatch at 436-3113 and he/she will decide how to handle the call appropriately.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Douglas V. Cummings II
Animal Control Officer

"Moose at Secret Pond" photo courtesy of Tom Smith

BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT

There was a total of 52 Building Permits issued during calendar 1996 for various improvements, remodeling projects, additions, and 10 new homes. This is a decrease of one permit from the previous year.

I continue to provide all inspection services throughout the Town with the exceptions of permission to install, and final inspection of petroleum fired heating equipment which are performed by the Fire Department. The Fire Department also provides inspection services for residential sprinkler systems. Two homes have installed these systems.

We have prepared a simple guide to assist those wishing to remodel, make additions, or build a new home. The guide lists the majority of the steps required to obtain a Building Permit. The guide also lists the documentation that is required for the typical project. It is available at the Town Hall. The necessity for Historic District Commission hearings, Zoning Board of Adjustment hearings, and applications to the New Hampshire Wetlands Board can be time consuming. I encourage you to start your Building Permit application early to avoid construction start delays. I am available 8am to 4pm weekdays to provide further assistance and perform various inspections.

A permit is not normally required for maintenance or repairs or for improvements valued at under $500. However, I continue to encourage you to contact me at the Town Office, or at 431-5107, to alleviate some of the questions that are typically created by the observance of contractor vehicles at your home.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Petlick
Building Official

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

The responsibility of the Public Works Department is to manage all maintenance, administration, and capital expenditures relating to the water distribution system, as well as the sewer collection system that are owned by the town. The City of Portsmouth owns part of the water system; down Wentworth Road to the corner of Main Street.

This year we had a few water line breaks due to the lack of snow cover which acts as insulation. Dan Barrett and Steve Tabbutt quickly took care of these in freezing weather. A purchase was made of a hazardous gas detector which is lowered into the three lift stations prior to our men entering the space to do their routine maintenance work. The department also instituted a program of offering dye tablets to be used in residential toilets to detect water leakage. There are still tablets available at the Town Hall, and we urge everyone who hasn't tested their toilets to do so. This could make a substantial savings on your water bill.

The department will continue to spot check various indoor residential meters to see if there are any problems which need to be corrected. We will also be checking to make sure that no sump pumps are discharging into the town sewer, as this is a violation of Section 5 Paragraph H of the Sewer & Water Ordinance of the Town of New Castle. We appreciate your cooperation in both these matters.

There were no increases in the water and sewer fees, so the minimum rates remain the same:

The minimum rate for water: $34.80 per 15,000 gallons
The minimum rate for sewer: $42.10 per 15,000 gallons
(Combination for sewer & water: $76.90)

The water/sewer bills are issued three times a year. Your bill reflects usage for the four months prior to the billing date. Bills are sent around the first of April, August, and December. The minimum usage is 2,000 cubic feet or 15,000 gallons.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter H. Liff, Chairman
Public Works Board

REPORT OF THE TOWN HISTORIAN

With the passage of time I become increasingly aware of the important work done by the early members of the Archives and Records Committee. Twenty-five years ago this dedicated group of volunteers, headed by Janet Macomber, undertook the formidable task of gathering, sorting, arranging, and restoring the ancient town records which we are privileged to have and use today. Some of the more important of these had been stored in the old town safe which was woefully inadequate to hold but a few. Over the years the rest had been left to gather dust and to deteriorate in old cardboard boxes.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Macomber and to the following members of her group: the late Joseph Copley, the late Geraldine Woodward, Frederick White, Mary White, and Cynthia Thomas. In addition to the restoration work they performed, they left us with an excellent index of the subject matter contained in the records themselves, plus an indispensable card file containing the names of early residents culled from vital records, tax lists, obituaries, and the like.

While we are acknowledging the work of others, it seems appropriate to impart a word of praise and encouragement to the Historical Group whose members are working on an oral history project that will provide us with a collection of pictures and reminiscences of many of the older residents of the town. We wish them success in this worthwhile project.

In last year's report I stated that a new unit of roller shelving would be ordered for the proper storage of some of the older records for which space had previously been unavailable. This unit has been installed and is in use in the vault. Additionally, I am happy to report that another volume of vital records has been professionally restored and rebound.

Also, in last year's report I mentioned that we had requested a small amount of funding for refurbishing an old closet in our auxiliary storage room on the second floor of the town office building. This too has been completed and will provide storage for our old-pictures collection, as well as needed space for other records and supplies.

We have a collection of Civil War enrollments from New Castle, and another record of the names of local men who might have been called up for induction in the military in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The Civil War records were haphazardly pasted into a book without regard to chronological or categorical order. Fortunately, one of our newer residents, Mr. Christopher Russell, has agreed to help us in reorganizing these records. Later, if it is deemed expedient, we shall have them de-acidified and perhaps rebound.

Those who are perceptive will note a slight variation in the appearance of the town seal on this year's warrants for the town meeting. Instead of the gummed or pressure seals usually affixed to these documents, the selectmen have agreed to use the old wax seal that was described in the recent issue of

"Island Items". This seal is nearly as old as the town itself. I am grateful to them for permitting its use once again.

Each week, on Tuesday afternoons, Fred White joins me at the town office where we peruse the old town records. During the course of the year we receive requests for information from town officials and others, both local and from other parts of the country. The information needed may be about ancient roads and boundaries, votes and records from the past, or other data not readily available. The inquiries from distant places usually involve a search for information about family genealogy. When there is nothing pressing we do our own individual browsing, oftentimes coming up with fascinating bits of information.

I have come to depend upon Fred's help and advice. His seemingly inexhaustible fund of knowledge about New Castle, its people and events, is a never ending source of amazement.

Finally I must acknowledge the spirit of cooperation I have received from the selectmen and townspeople for the past ten years. It has been a rewarding experience for me to have served under such pleasant circumstance.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene W. Morrill,
Town Historian/Archivist

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The New Castle Historic District was formed by a vote of the town at the 1992 town meeting. The purpose of the law and the duty of the commission is to preserve the architectural character of the historic district.

The bounds of the historic district are along Route 1B from River Road to Wentworth Road, one lot deep on the south side and to the shore of the Piscataqua River on the north side of the route.

Generally, any change or addition to any structure in the district, which requires a building permit and which can be seen from any street, requires review by the commission. In addition, although changes and additions to walls and fences do not require building permits, they do require review by the commission if they can be seen from the street. If you reside in the district and have any questions concerning any project please contact Chuck Petlick, our building inspector, to find out if your project will require HDC review.

The HDC, subject to an annual minimum of four meetings, meets on demand on the first Thursday of the month at the town hall at 7pm. Every petition for review requires advertising and notification of abutters. The deadline for receiving any application is during normal office hours at the Town Hall on the Monday of the week prior to the HDC meeting night. We urge you to submit your application as soon as possible in order that we keep any unnecessary delays to a minimum.

As this report is being written, the Selectmen are recommending to the Planning Board the expansion of the district beyond the present bounds in the direction of River and Oliver Streets and along Portsmouth Avenue to the town cemetery. Such an expansion would appear to be a logical extension of the district. This commission therefore strongly supports this move and hopes that any ensuing warrant article to this effect will be supported by the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce N. Smith, Chairman

LIBRARY TRUSTEES REPORT

This year was busy and eventful for the New Castle Public Library. The Library circulated over 10,000 books this year. This number is astounding for a town library servicing a population of under 900 and with a limited budget. In addition to our book circulation, our resources include for patron use a fax machine, computer, audio, and video tapes as well as inter-library loan. The fax machine available for patron use is new this year and was made possible by donations. We would like to encourage all residents of New Castle to take advantage of this newly provided service.

The New Castle Library runs smoothly due to the hard work and generosity of many people. Our librarian, Jane Barrett, is to be commended for her excellent work. Many thanks to our dedicated volunteers, Lois Sofarelli, Louise Aspen, Nancy Fessenden, Beth Hume, Anne Kern, Joan Lockhart, Bee Newman, Lee Rathgeber, Jenny Rosenson, Jim Young (RSVP), and Ruth Young (RSVP). Without them, our library would not be able to provide such outstanding service. We owe a great deal to the many people who donate time and funds to improve our library's growth. This year, through several generous donations ($6000) and an amount from our savings ($4000), the Trustees have been able to establish a $10,000 trust fund towards the library's future growth.

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Friends of the Library, who have always worked long and hard for the library. Without the Friends, the library would not have the many "extras", including, this year, the addition of Saturday hours. Many thanks to the Friends for their continued support.

It is wonderful to see a library such as ours expand. We hope it will continue to do so in leaps and bounds. The New Castle Library will continue to grow if our residents use and support it. The Trustees are highly committed to excellent library service for the Town of New Castle. We look forward to meeting and serving you in the coming year. Don't forget we are open Saturdays (10-1) for those who can't visit during the week. A top notch library is our top priority, so come in and check it out.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Kelly, Trustee Chairman
New Castle Public Library Trustees

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

This has been another active year for your Planning Board with the continuing development of the Wentworth property as the principal challenge. Because of several variations from the master site plan approved in 1993 the Board required a revised master plan and related list of conditions. The master plan approved this year contains 15 fewer homes than the prior plan (a 10% reduction).

After several meetings which resulted in significant revisions to the detail plans proposed for Marina Heights the Board approved the creation of 12 single family lots. Marina Heights is the area across the street from the hotel which overlooks the marina and its parking lot. Activity will soon be shifting to the hotel side of Route 1B with the proposed development of 33 homes in the area in front of Ducks Head. Also, we look forward to working with the new owners of the hotel.

In addition, the Board has adopted seven revisions to our zoning ordinance, two of which would affect only cluster developments, such as the Wentworth. Others deal with such matters as fences and walls, temporary signs and outside hot tubs. There are two major changes, one of which would expand the Historic District by adding Oliver Street; Cape, River, and Riverview Roads; and part of Cranfield Street and Portsmouth Avenue. The other is in response to the potential impact of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and will restrict the siting of such facilities, e.g. antenna towers, to certain town owned land. You will, of course, have an opportunity to vote on all of these proposed revisions at our annual town meeting.

The only change in the composition of the Board during the year was the addition of Dave Reynolds as an alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Beecher, Chairman

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The ZBA held 7 meetings in 1996. Four Variance requests were heard involving side lot lines, expansion of non-conforming uses, and limitations on building height. One was approved, one was denied, one was approved with conditions attached, and one was held to not require a variance.

One case was heard involving a Special Exception (construction of a pier), and it was approved.

Although the number of hearings dropped this past year, the complexity of the cases continues as people attempt to build on remaining land, which is often marginal, or expand houses on lots that may have been created hundreds of years ago.

The Zoning Ordinance can't anticipate every situation and a Variance may provide a fair resolution of undue hardship when it is in the public interest. Often, a satisfactory balancing of public and private interests may lead the **ZBA** to place limits (or conditions) on an approval. The Zoning Ordinance is the responsibility of the Planning Board. Changes in the ordinance continue to be made in order to clarify ambiguity.

The **ZBA** has prepared a handout explaining the procedures for applying and the ground rules that are followed. It is available at the Town Hall. Please be aware that applications are due fourteen days prior to a scheduled meeting in order to allow time to check for errors in the application, legal posting, and for the board to familiarize itself with the issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Cullen, Chairman

REPORT OF THE NEW CASTLE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION

Each spring, the season begins in the same way - melting snow and ice, rising temperatures, tiny mosquito larvae wriggling in stagnant pools of water and adult black flies bussing in your ears, eyes, and mouth. By July, the black flies have been replace by mosquitoes, greenhead flies, and no-see-ums. In 1996, however, the season ended with some startling news from neighboring New England states. An alarming number of mosquitoes were found carrying eastern equine encephalitis (EEE for short). The disease was found in the usual bird-biting species, but this time EEE was found in human-biting species abundant in our area. Suddenly, mosquitoes were more than a nuisance, they'd become a public health issue.

In New Hampshire, we all know when mosquitoes are a nuisance, but we may not know when they're a public health threat. Mosquitoes are not tested for EEE as in other states. There is no financial or intellectual support from the University, the County or the State government to operate an EEE surveillance program. We are on our own here.

This local mosquito control program tries to control both nuisance mosquitoes and (potential) disease carrying mosquitoes. Frequently, it's the same mosquito we're targeting. One very bothersome mosquito in the area is the summer salt marsh mosquito, Aedes sollicitans. Larvae hatch after flood tides and heavy rains resulting in 5 or more generations a season. Control of this species is a constant battle even during a dry year. We use a Bacillus bacteria known as BTI to combat the larvae. BTI is applied on foot using backpack sprayers. Mosquitoes develop rapidly during the summer months, going from egg to winged adult in less than seven days.

Residents who do NOT want their wetlands sprayed for mosquito larvae, should contact the mosquito control department every spring. Call 778-3906 or write PO Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Please include your name, address, daytime phone #, size of property, and description of the boundaries (landmarks).

Another ongoing program taking place on the salt marshes is greenhead fly control. These black boxes attract greenhead flies. The flies become trapped inside and die from dehydration. Many insect predators such as praying mantids and spiders have found these traps to be an excellent food source. Hawks, red-winged blackbirds, gulls, to name a few, all use the black boxes for roosting and feeding. These simple traps are an effective and easy way to get rid of those persistent greenheads with their painful bite.

It's impossible to tell you everything about mosquito control in one typed page. So, any resident who would like more information on the mosquito control program, diseases, insecticides, precautions, what you the homeowner can do to help or any other inquiry should call the mosquito control office May-Sept.at 778-3906. Thank you for reading my report.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah T. MacGregor,Director, Mosquito Control

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

At the end of the fiscal year, the town's trust funds, invested in United States Treasuries and in certificates of deposit of New Hampshire banks, totalled nearly $600,000. Those investments earned in excess of $23,000, for an apparent average return of 4%. Actual return was greater, however, because more than half of the principal was managed by the Trustees for less than six months.

Major additions to the trust funds derived from the establishment of a Public Works depreciation fund, initially funded with $275,000, and appropriations for the fire truck and other equipment. The Library Trustees added $10,000 to funds held for library use. Receipts for the road race were exceeded by withdrawals to establish and improve the common playground.

A detailed financial report is available at the town office; a simplified version is printed elsewhere in this book.

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees of the Trust Fund
Henry Bedford
Russell Cox
Peter Gil

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Supervisors of the Checklist are in session prior to each election. Time, date, and place of these sessions are posted on the bulletin board in the Post Office and the Town Hall. Notification of upcoming sessions are also published in the Portsmouth Herald.

New Residents, or first time voters, may also apply to the Town Clerk for a registration card during his office hours, and he will in turn put the card into the Supervisor's file. The next time the Supervisors are in session the name will be added to the checklist. The supervisors have the final word as to whether the person's name will be added to the checklist.

Respectfully submitted,

Rowena Alessi, Chairman
Joanne Ireland
Marcia Whitehouse

CEMETERY TRUSTEES' REPORT

It seems an appropriate time to share with townspeople some of the decisions and actions we have taken during the past year.

First of all is the decision to close Riverside Cemetery for burials each year from November 15 to April 15. We know how difficult it is for families who are faced with the heart breaking problem of losing a loved one, especially during winter months when the ground is frozen and perhaps covered with snow. One might ask why it is necessary to delay burial when modern equipment can excavate frozen ground. The simple fact is that heavy machinery can cause serious damage when icy conditions exist, particularly in a cemetery such as ours with sharp turns, hilly terrain, and limited space to maneuver. We are aware of the fact that in some years the ground is not frozen until well into December, and we are willing to bend the rule if conditions warrant, but we must reserve final judgement in this matter. Incidentally, all area cemeteries are closed during the winter months with the exception of Calvary Cemetery in Portsmouth where the roads are plowed after each storm and the flat terrain provides access without danger to cemetery environment.

Besides its wonderful location, another attractive feature of Riverside are the beautiful old maple trees whose stately presence lend a peaceful and dignified atmosphere. Their roots and falling limbs present problems at times, but over the years the town has managed to preserve them. Recently it was necessary to engage an arborist to cable and trim the dead limbs from one which is located well into the back of the cemetery. We shall continue to do this kind of repair as future needs require.

We have decided, with the approval of selectmen, to move the sailors' memorial presently located near the back of the cemetery to a more prominent position at Great Island Common. Inscribed with the names of twelve New Castle men lost at sea during an eleven year period, this monument was dedicated in 1856, and was erected in the local church yard. For some unknown reason it was later moved to the cemetery where it has received little attention and is seldom seen. The ravages of time, weather, and atmospheric pollution have rendered its inscriptions barely legible, but this marble obelisk can and should be restored in a prominent place of honor. What more fitting location than at the Common where it will occupy a place nearer the sea.

Erosion in the driveways at Riverside has been the cause of much concern and expense in recent years. Storm water cascading down the hill within the cemetery has repeatedly washed out the gravel and stone dust used there in the past, leaving gullies and a great deal of residue at the lower driveway. We have remedied this situation by resurfacing them with a more durable material which should last for many years. We were able to complete only half of this project because of a lack of funds, but plan to finish it next year.

It is hard to believe, but the approval process for the proposed new cemetery at Great Island Common has come to a stand-still pending a decision by the Coast Guard to proceed with rebuilding of the pier at Fort Constitution where their larger vessels dock! The delay came about when our selectmen entered into negotiations for acquisition of a piece of land adjacent to the old town landing at the foot of Wentworth Road and Walbach Street. We were told that if we took space for a cemetery at the Common we must provide comparable space elsewhere for recreational use. The selectmen are endeavoring to do this, but we have met with a bureaucratic snag which is delaying the whole process. It appears that the Coast Guard can make no commitments until they solve their docking problem. In the meantime we must continue to deal with our problem of very limited space within the only usable cemetery we have presently.

We were faced with the necessity of engaging a new grounds keeper this past year. Fred Pitts who had served us well for the past few years turned in his resignation, and we were fortunate to acquire the services of Peter Snyder. The position involves the care and maintenance of four cemeteries within the town: Riverside, including the strip which divides Portsmouth Avenue in front; Marvin, located in back of the Priestly property near the Trefethen School; Frost, in the center of town opposite the church; and Tarlton, in Pit Lane. We are pleased to report that Peter has done a fine job this past year.

A few years ago receipts derived from the sale of cemetery plots were deposited directly into the town's general fund. Under the new arrangement, all of these receipts are turned over to the trustee of trust funds where they are added to the principal of the cemetery trust account. In this way the trust funds are growing, and as a result, a greater amount of interest is available each year to offset cemetery expenditures. Last year the cemetery trust fund interest turned over to the town amounted to $4,316, or 57 percent of the total funds spent by the cemetery trustees. Or, put another way, this means that of the total of $7,532 spent, only $3,239 came from tax sources.

The trustees wish to thank the townspeople for their generous support and patience in helping us to improve our cemeteries.

Restfully submitted,

William Lanham
David Merrill
Eugene Morrill
Cemetery Trustees

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

The Rockingham Planning Commission was established by RSA 36 and operates as a public non-profit agency. The Commission is run by a Board of Commissioners representing each of its 27-member communities. New Castle's representatives on the Commission are Gene Doherty and Raymond Ambrogi.

In the past year, the Rockingham Planning Commission provided a variety of both regional and specific local assistance. The direct local assistance provided to New Castle during the year included the following:

- Finalizing the 14 zoning and building code amendments with the New Castle Zoning Rewrite Committee for annual town meeting warrant and ballot and updating Zoning and Land Use Regulations book format.

- Preparing and providing final copy of revised New Castle Zoning Ordinance following changes made at the 1996 Town Meeting which incorporated all adopted zoning amendments.

- Completing town wide buildout analysis using the RPC geographic information system (GIS); preparing final maps indicating potentially developable building lots and updating Town parcel map on GIS.

- Researching model standards for subdivision streets and preparing draft subdivision regulation amendments to replace road design and construction standards, and researching information for the telecommunications facility ordinance for use by the Planning Board.

In addition to assistance provided specifically to New Castle, the town benefitted from the Commissions regional planning activities, including education and training for land use board members, general regional land use, and transportation planning and land conservation and resource protection efforts.

This year, regional activities benefitting New Castle included completion of a region wide inventory and map of conservation and protected lands; preparation of a Route 1A-1B Corridor Management Plan and provided Coastal Program grant funds for local planning assistance. Specific regional planning activities carried out in 1996 included land use planning; educational programs; transportation planning; economic development and solid waste management.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene F. Doherty

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

We want to remind residents that practically all work within 100 feet of salt water or a salt marsh must be done only after obtaining a permit from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Applications and other guidance are available at town hall. The State has made substantial progress in shortening the length of time it takes to get a permit; however, depending on the complexity of the project, lead time could still be considerable. There is also a Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act which regulates, among other things, the amount of tree cutting that can be done within 150 feet of the shore.

During 1996, the Conservation Commission reviewed the following applications and provided comments to the Department of Environmental Services;

1. To build a fieldstone retaining wall and do other landscaping - Susan Carlisle
2. To construct a house - Walter Hoffman
3. To construct a house - Frances Mallon
4. To do maintenance dredging channel and anchorage in Little Harbor - New Hampshire State Port Authority
5. To construct a small deck - George Pitts
6. To construct a ramp and floating dock - Pull & B.D. Inc. New Castle

Respectfully submitted,

William B. Marshall III, Chairman

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

1996 was a busy year for New Castle Emergency Management. New Castle participated in the Seabrook Station Radiological Emergency Response Plan. During 1996, the Federal Emergency Management Agency conducted a "graded exercise" at Seabrook Station. New Castle received an excellent report for its portion of the "graded exercise".

A grant application was written and submitted to the NH Office of Emergency Management and FEMA for the federally funded Emergency Management Assistance program. The Town of New Castle was awarded $6,600 in this grant. The funds from the grant will be dispersed to the Police, Public Works, and Fire Departments to continue Emergency Management preparedness.

Every year an Emergency Public Information Brochure for Seabrook Station is mailed to every household. Inside the brochure contains important information on emergency planning for Seabrook Station. This is a good informational guide for all kinds of large scale emergencies. Please keep the brochure, read it and store it with your telephone book.

Inside this brochure is an "Emergency Help Survey" card. The survey card is part of an annual program to identify persons who may need individual help in the event of an emergency. If you or someone you know needs individual help, it is important for you to let us know. Just fill in the information and return the card. However, if you would like personalized help with the survey please contact this office or the Police Department, so that we can meet your needs during the time of an emergency. **Your Response Will Be Kept Strictly Confidential.**

Should you have any questions or constructive suggestions, the Office of Emergency Management is located at the Fire Department, 43 Main Street, and the business phone number isf 436-1132.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White
Emergency Management Director

NEW CASTLE FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Department Membership

This year's report will dwell on the need for the citizens of New Castle to volunteer for the town's fire, rescue and emergency medical services. If you were to look back in the past town reports the fire department reports continually discussed the need for volunteers. As the demographics of our community change, so does the membership of the fire department. With New Castle's average age of 55, limited land mass, and the cost of housing, recruiting volunteers has become a difficult task at best.

The following are membership facts:

- 26 active members (firefighters & EMT's)
- 7 EMT's with only 3 living in town
- In the past year the department has lost 9 members, 5 of those were EMT's
- Nationally, it takes 3 volunteers to adequately staff 1 position, New Castle has 15 positions
- 11 members live outside of town
- Average age of members in town is 46
- In the next 5 years, 10 of the current 16 members living in town will most likely retire from the fire service.

The department membership is on the verge of a crisis situation if this downward trend continues.

What is the Fire Department doing to **STOP** this trend? First, the department has met with the Board of Selectmen and formed a partnership making this issue one of the Town's and Department's priorities. Secondly, Lieutenant Bill Kingston, EMT Teddy Golter, Firefighter/EMT Charlie Tarbell and Firefighter Rick Vines have been appointed to form a committee for the sole purpose of recruiting members. This committee will make every effort to contact the citizens of New Castle to explain the reasons and rewards of being a firefighter or emergency medical technician.

The remainder of the report will focus on the summary of events in the year 1996. *If the Town of New Castle can not deal with the department membership issue, then the events listed below will have very little meaning in our future.*

• • • •

During the year of 1996, your fire department responded to 83 incidents with 47 being medical emergencies. Overall, total requests for service were up 2%, however medical emergencies increased 17% over 1995 records. The town's average age of 55 reflects the increase in medical emergencies.

At the last town meeting the citizens of New Castle approved the purchase of a new fire engine. The fire engine has been ordered from Pierce Manufacturing Company in Appleton, Wisconsin. The design of the engine meets the needs of New Castle as well as provides safety for the firefighters. We should see it's arrival in the last part of July.

The Fire Department is participating in a regional Hazardous Materials Team with over 20 communities. Hazardous Materials Teams are extremely costly to operate. We are participating in the shared cost based upon population and equalized property evaluation. Our haz mat needs are small and so are our costs, but we have the potential of having a significant hazardous materials incident.

In the past years some people have asked what does the town get for the money it raises each year to operate the fire department? We understand this question. Why? Because most all of the incidents are small in nature when looking at the town as a whole. I can tell you that when you speak to those citizens who benefit from the actions of the Fire Department, the incidents were not small to their family.

On November 13, 1996, you saw your tax dollars in action. At 6:31pm the phone call poured in reporting a structure fire at 57 Cranfield Street at the home of Bart & Elizabeth Dalla Mura. The Fire Department arrived within 4 minutes from the time of the call finding fire throughout the Dalla Mura's home. Within minutes the fire had escalated into a 2 alarm fire because adjacent homes and buildings where within 5 to 8 feet of the fire building. Mutual aid apparatus was summoned in the event the fire should spread to the nearby homes.

The fire did not spread as New Castle firefighters contained the fire within the Dalla Mura's home. The controversial budget item, "class A foam systems" installed on both fire engines gave New Castle firefighters the upper hand while crawling into rooms full of fire at temperatures greater than 1000 degrees. New Castle's emergency medical technicians were on scene providing medical attention to the Dalla Mura's and supporting the firefighters. Mutual aid fire engines and ladders were ready to protect the adjacent homes should the fire spread beyond. An air van and ambulance were on scene to support firefighting activities. Additional mutual aid fire apparatus and firefighters were at the fire station to protect the citizens of New Castle should another call have been received.

Over the years, the tax dollars paid for equipment, protective clothing, recruiting, training and motivating firefighters and emergency medical technicians to be ready when you call. On the night of November 13, 1996, you saw 25 out of 26 New Castle Fire Department men and women answer the call for help. These men and women performed in a professional manner exactly as they were trained.

1996 Report of Incidents

Alarm Activation's	7	Arcing/Down Wires	2
Emergency Medical Aid Call	47	Hazardous Materials	1
Odor/Smoke Removal	1	Public Assistance	8
Structure Fires	2	Vehicle fires	1
Unauthorized Burning	1	Mutual Aid to Pease International Tradeport	2
Mutual Aid to Portsmouth	6	Mutual Aid to Rye	5

TOTAL ALARMS 83

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White, Fire Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER REPORT

In calendar year 1996, our three (3) leading causes of fires were children, non-permit fires not properly extinguished, and smoking materials.

Violations of RSA 224:27 II, the fire permit law and other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire, are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to $2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and State Forest Fire Officials contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required. This also helps to prevent unnecessary response to a controlled burn.

Please note, due to the close proximity of our homes in New Castle, is burning permits are required at all times, even if it is raining or snow on the ground. The following personnel have authorization to issue burning permits:

Richard Hopley	436-3694
Bill Kingston	431-7876
Andrew Schulte	436-5071
Richard White	436-9025

Local communities and the state share the cost of suppression on a 50/50 basis. The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols, and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid quick response from the local fire department.

"REMEMBER...ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES."

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White
Fire Chief

John Dodge
State Forest Ranger

BIRTHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1996- December 31, 1996

NAME OF CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH	PARENT'S
Brian Kyle Levenson	March 30, 1996 Portsmouth	Donna K. Knowles Stuart M. Levenson
Emma Katherine Wheeler	May 24, 1996 Portsmouth	Katherine G. Wheeler Robert T. Wheeler
Savanna Rebecca White	June 15, 1996 Dover	Wendolyn L. Hammer Zadoc L. White
Margaret Elizabeth Cohen	October 9, 1996 Portsmouth	Patricia L. Scholz Burton J. Cohen

DEATHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1996- December 31, 1996

NAME OF DECEASED	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
Stewart Foster Lovell	January 3, 1996	Portsmouth
Katherine E. Campbell	January 16, 1996	New Castle
Bevuell James Harris	February 8, 1996	Portsmouth
Hilda Graham Mori	February 13, 1996	Dover
Jessie Schurman Scammon	March 5, 1996	Portsmouth
William Lewis Snyder	March 27, 1996	Portsmouth
Joseph Leonard Schurman Jr.	March 28, 1996	Portsmouth
Dorothy Miller Becker	April 10, 1996	Portsmouth
Gladys Austin Williams	April 25, 1996	New Castle
Mary Paige Adams	June 9, 1996	New Castle
Robert E. Nickell	June 15, 1996	New Castle
Francis Xavier Morgan	July 23, 1996	New Castle
Thomas Douglas Lambert	September 27, 1996	New Castle
Jean Phyllis Snyder	November 17, 1996	Portsmouth

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1996 - DECEMBER 31, 1996

GROOM NAME & ADDRESS	BRIDE NAME & ADDRESS	DATE	LOCATION
Andres E. Borden New Castle, NH	Sissel Monsen Kittery, ME	01/31/96	New Castle
Hamilton Brooks Stevens New Castle, NH	Margaret Pesce New Castle, NH	01/17/96	New Castle
Sean M. Tracey New Castle, NH	Lina M. Carrillo New Castle, NH	02/18/96	New Castle
Richard J. Campbell New Castle, NH	Carol Ann Bennett New Castle, NH	04/03/96	New Castle
Richard L. Williams New Castle, NH	Lisa E. Olson New Castle, NH	06/20/96	Portsmouth
Giles Q.S. Whittell Pacific Palisades, CA	Karen L. Stirgwolt Pacific Palisades, CA	06/27/96	New Castle
William L. Pingree New Castle, NH	Judith C. Kamakas Rye, NH	08/30/96	Portsmouth
Travis F. Rinker Greenlawn, NY	Rena H. Danko Greenlawn, NY	10/12/96	New Castle

NEW CASTLE TOWN OFFICES

Selectmen's Office	431-6710
Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.	8 to 2PM
Town Clerk	431-6710
Mon., Wed., Fri.	9 to 1PM
Tax Collector	431-6710
Wed., Thurs., Fri.	8 to 2PM
Library	431-6773
Monday	1 to 7PM
Wednesday	11 to 5PM
Thursday	11 to 5PM
Saturday (seasonal, closed June 15 to Sept. 15)	10 to 1PM
Fire/EMTs - Emergency	911 or 436-2515
Business Line	436-1132
Ambulance	911 or 436-2515
Police - Emergency	911 or 436-3113
Business Line	436-3800